

light, the diafragms, in the internal small tubes, may be easily discerned.

The outer leaves are greatly swollen and dilated at the base, as at a, b, c; where the fructification is lodged. The stile and stigma are placed in the hollow part of the base of the outer leaves; the germin is supported by a cordate valve, or flower-cup, as at e; and the edges of the inflated base, of these outer or female leaves, is a thin fine membrane, which so closely embraces and surrounds the gibous part of the male leaf within as to exclude the water.

The inner or male leaf, b, opens on the outer or gibous side of the base, within the embraces of the female leaf. Its fructification consists of a roundish anthera, without filament; and it rests on a cordate valve or flower-cup, similar to that of the female. By the above admirable contrivance, the two flowers come in near contact with each other, and, though in the bottom of deep lakes, are secured from the intrusion of the water.

The seed-vessel is of an oblong form, consisting of two valves, filled with white globular seeds; each of which is girt round with a prominent ring, as at d. After the discharge of the seeds, the outer leaves fall off and perish, and the next in order perform the same office a succeeding year; and the number of leaves is kept up by a supply of young ones from the centre.

Grows in lakes on high mountains. I have dragged it out of several lakes on *Snowden*, and it has been sent me from *Westmoreland*.

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